

Remarks

In the Office action dated December 29, 2005, a Restriction Requirement was placed on the application, requiring election of one of the following species for prosecution under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Group I: electrically held exhaust valve

Group II: mechanically held exhaust valve

Applicant hereby elects Group I without traverse, and has accordingly amended the claims to conform to the election. Further, Applicants have amended Claim 8 to correct a typographical error.

Applicants would also like to make the Examiner aware of the Preliminary Amendments filed on June 18, 2004 and September 10, 2004.

Based on the foregoing comments, the above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

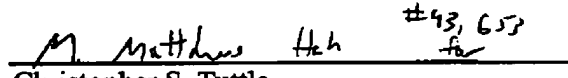
Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account No. 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1505.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile at (571) 273-8300 on January 26, 2006.


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Respectfully submitted,
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